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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20521

April 10, 1979

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MEMORANDUM FOR DR. ZBIGNIEW BRZEZINSKI
THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject: Letter to the President from Mrs. Rische
M. Timerman

Mrs. Rische M. Timerman, the wife of a prominent Argentine publisher who has been the victim of human rights abuse by the GOA, has written to President Carter to express her deep appreciation for the President's efforts on behalf of her husband. The letter, which was delivered to our Embassy in Israel where she resides, also expresses appreciation for Ambassador Castro's work on this case and Mrs. Timerman's hope that these efforts will lead to her husband's release.

The GOA has recently reconsidered Timerman's case and the Junta has discussed whether he might now be released. While this review was underway the Argentine Foreign Ministry asked our Embassy in Buenos Aires what our quid pro quo might be for Timerman's release. The Embassy offered no specific suggestions and reiterated our position that Timerman should be released on the merits of his case. In his most recent discussion of the Timerman case with Army Commander Viola, Ambassador Castro again urged that Timerman be released. General Viola told him that this is not likely to take place in the immediate future.

We recommend that the President sign the attached reply to Mrs. Timerman.

Clearances: ARA/ECA: CWRuser C.W. R/jma

HA/HR: PFlood R/jma

NEA/IAI: DKorn DK/jma

ARA:RCGuzman R/jma

Peter Tarnoff

Executive Secretary

ARA:VPV B/jma

Attachments:

1. Suggested reply
2. Letter from Mrs. Rische M. Timerman to President Carter

Drafted: ARA/ECA: CHBrayshaw:jma
4/6/79 x 29166

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ARGENTINA PROJECT (SZ0000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/TPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

(X) Release () Excise () Deny

Exemption(s):

Declassify: () In Part (X) In Full

() Classify as () Extend as () Downgrade to

Date Declassify on Reason